Unprotected well at Pariyaram.

311. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether steps have been taken since the last Budget Session, to close up the well that stands unprotected right in the centre of the public road running in front of the Church at Pariyaram in Mukundapuram Taluk;

(b) if not, why not?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes. The well has been filled up.

(b) No answer is required in view of the answer to 1st part of the question.

Public Drains in Ernakulam.

312. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government kindly say whether it has come to their notice that the public drains in the fore-shore of Ernakulam are also highly insanitary and in a state of ruin?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—They are neither insanitary nor in a state of ruin.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Has the condition of the drain in front of the Municipal Office at Ernakulam on the fore-shore ever come to the notice of the Government?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—They are neither insanitary nor contageous.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—That is the opinion of the Government. Has it ever come to the notice of the Government—the condition of that drain in front of the Municipal Office on the fore-shore of Ernakulam?

President.—It must have come to the notice of the Government.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Do the Government think that it is in a sound condition?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Yes. We have answered the question so.

President.—You have put a general question which refers to all the drains in Ernakulam.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—It is why I am particularly pointing out that drain. Has it come to the notice of the Government? I ask whether Government consider that that drain is in a sanitary condition?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The Member should not consider that Government gave the answer without looking into the matter.

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Mr. M. K. Raman.—Whether the Government consider that that particular drain is in a sanitary condition ?

President.—What I am to understand from your question is that you contend that that drain is insanitary.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes ; I think it is. There the answer is given in a general way because I have asked a general question.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—That is because the question is a general one.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I particularly ask the question now pointing out a particular drain and whether it is after consulting any expert opinion that they gave this answer ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—We forwarded the question to the Municipal authorities ; we asked the question to the Chairman of the Municipality and the Sanitary authorities under him. We are not giving an answer of our own. We give only those answers that are received from the proper authorities.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—So am I to take it that it is the expert opinion that the drains in Ernakulam are in sound condition ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I think that is not a cross-examination of a witness.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, I have a complaint to make in the method of answering questions. Questions cannot be split up like that. I had put in a series of questions. I do not find those questions here. Two questions alone are selected out of that series of questions and answered here. This has been pointed out more than once in this House, and the President has ruled that questions should not be split up. Unless they are answered together, it could not serve any useful purpose.

President.—Are all those questions of yours under one topic?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes.

President.—Have you put them under a heading as 'Sanitary condition of the Ernakulam Municipal Town' or something like that ?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I have not put a particular heading for them. I have simply numbered the questions in the serial order and not under one heading.

President.—Do all of them relate to the same matter ?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Yes. But a separate heading had not been put.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Instructions on the matter have been carefully and scrupulously followed. We take all the questions on a subject together and answer them together. But in this case, even though there are questions coming after this

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question, they relate to other matters and hence they were not answered together. Those questions are about the using of the fore-shore behind the bazaar and so on.

President.—I think I have issued instructions that by splitting questions the very purpose of putting the questions is frustrated.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—It is not possible to answer questions in the order in which they are sent by the members or to answer all the questions of a Member relating to the same subject, but sent on different dates.

President.—I think it would be possible to answer all the questions relating to one and the same matter coming under one heading.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I put these questions without a heading; but any person can know that they relate to one and the same subject.

Municipal Thotties.

313. Mr. M. K. Raman.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

do the Municipal Thotties clean their carts and rubbish tins, etc., in the back-water on the foreshore of Ernakulam ; is any action taken by the Municipality against the Thotties to prevent such practices ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The Municipal thotties do not wash their carts or tins in the back-water. There is a separate tank for the purpose, often disinfected, in the Kalloor Night Soil Depot which is about 3 miles away from the back-water.

Resolutions regarding an Elected President.

314. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many resolutions in the course of the last three years have been received by the Government requesting to give an elected President to the Legislative Council ?

(b) whether those resolutions will be printed along with the date on which they were received and names of those who submitted them and placed on the Table ;

(c) whether these resolutions have been submitted to His Highness, and if so, with what remarks they were submitted ;

(d) how these resolutions have been finally disposed of by the Government ?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—(a) Four as far as can be ascertained.

(b) *Vide Appendix V.*

(c) The correspondence with His Highness is of a confidential nature and cannot, therefore, be disclosed.

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